



SENATOR
MICHELLE A. McMANUS
McManus Minutes



Serving the 35th District • P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing, MI 48909

PHONE: (517) 373-1725 • TOLL FREE: 1-866-305-2135 • FAX: (517) 373-0741

EMAIL: senmmcmanus@senate.michigan.gov • WEBSITE: www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/mcmanus

“This office belongs to the citizens of the 35th district.”

State Senator Michelle A. McManus

New legislation names Great Lakes State Park

Michigan's Great Lakes bottomlands would be named the Great Lakes State Park under legislation I have introduced in the Michigan Senate. My bill, Senate Bill 429, officially names all the Great Lakes bottomlands within Michigan boundaries as the Great Lakes State Park, Michigan's largest state park. The bottomlands are already in the public trust under an 1899 law. The goal of my legislation is to call attention to these jewels we have and the recreational opportunities they offer, such as boating, fishing and scuba diving. Other bills in the package would establish a broad-based Great Lakes State Park and Salvage Advisory Committee to develop guidelines for shipwreck discovery, criteria for permits and passes for underwater archaeological recovery and salvage, as well as make recommendations on how to best use park funds. Senate Bills 429-431 and House Bills 4638-4640 are before the Senate Natural Resources Committee and the House Tourism, Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources, respectively.

Sen. McManus responds to governor's School Aid letter

Quality education is vital to Michigan's economic and social future. I believe education is the key for our children to compete in today's high-tech, global economy. In her latest announcement to cut per-pupil funding by \$122, the governor continues to blame me and my Senate colleagues. She remains in denial that her own party, the House Democratic majority, also supported a plan to balance the School Aid Fund with a minimal per-pupil funding reduction and without a tax increase. The governor is using school children as pawns in a dangerous game of blackmail. She would rather make a significant cut to school funding in hopes of forcing legislators into raising taxes, than accept the bipartisan School Aid Fund budget awaiting her signature. Her actions are unconscionable and shameful. Meanwhile, the budget clock continues to tick, and state finances continue to worsen. While the governor resorts to name-calling and threats, members of the Legislature will keep working in a progressive, bipartisan manner to resolve our state budget crisis. I hope the governor will join us and serve as part of the budget solution, instead of being part of the problem.

Contact Me

My door is always open. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding state issues. You can reach my Lansing office by phone at: 517-373-1725; toll free at 866-305-2135, or contact my Cadillac District Office at 231-775-8599. If you received this as a forwarded message and would like to receive future legislative updates via e-mail, you can sign up at my website: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/mcmanus>.